GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:151
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2007
STUDY REGARDING UTILISATION OF FUNDS UNDER RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES
Ramadass Prof. M;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study conducted by the Government has indicated that crores of rupees allocated under various Rural Development Schemes do not reach to the targeted beneficiaries in the villages;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise, and Scheme-wise;

(c) the details of the States that have not fully utilized the funds; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the funds are utilized fully by the States and the same are accorded priority?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) &(b) The studies conducted by the Ministry of Rural Development has not found that crores of rupees allocated under various rural development schemes do not reach to the targeted beneficiaries in the villages. According to the financial progress report received from the State Governments and Union Territories, the utilisation at national level in respect of major rural development pogramems was 80.78% of the available funds during the year 2006-07.

(c) State-wise funds available and utilized under various rural development programmes during the year 2006-07 is given at Annexure.

(d) The Ministry of Rural Development has developed a comprehensive system of monitoring the implementation of the Programmes including utilization of funds, through Periodical Progress Reports, Performance Review Committee meetings, Area Officer`s Scheme. National Level Monitors, District Level Monitoring and Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at the State/District Level. Besides, the States have been advised to adopt a five-pronged strategy consisting of
(i) creation of awareness,
(ii) transparency,
(iii) people`s participation,
(iv) accountability/social audit and
(v) strict vigilance and monitoring at all levels. These measures are to help in maximum utilization of funds under the rural development schemes.